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September 21, 2009

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CITY CLERK

Seattle City Council
c/o Seattle City Clerk
PO Box 94728
Seattle, WA 98124-4728

Dear Members of the Seattle City Council,

This letter is sent in support of the appeal to the Seattle City Council by the Coalition of Major Institutions and in opposition to appeals asking the City Council to deny approval to Seattle Children's Master Plan.

The Greater Seattle Chamber represents nearly 2,400 companies and a regional workforce of approximately 300,000. Seattle Children's is a precious resource in our region. It is one of the top pediatric hospitals in the nation, it provides critical care for children and families throughout the Pacific Northwest, and it is part of the healthcare ecosystem that drives our economy.

The need for growth at Seattle Children's is painfully clear. The hospital is at capacity and must expand to meet the needs of patients and families. To do so, Seattle Children's has complied with a two-year master plan process, participating in nearly 30 public community-led meetings and eight major revisions of its Master Plan. It developed an extensive package of mitigation measures to lessen impacts to the surrounding communities.

Seattle Children's is not a stand-alone hospital and its expansion is not a singular issue. Our hospitals and research institutions are collaborative by nature, and we depend on the collective strength of our respective facilities to advance some of the nation's most cutting edge research and treatment in immunodeficiency and autoimmune diseases, prevention of prematurity and stillbirth, neurodevelopment and birth defects, gene therapy and childhood obesity for families in Seattle and beyond.

Seattle Children's is an essential part of one of Seattle's few strengthening employment sectors and is a critical member of the city's burgeoning biotechnology and biomedical community. Limiting the hospital's ability to grow, or worse yet, creating a situation where it may be forced to leave Seattle, drastically limits a vital component of that employment base and our close knit medical community.

The fate of the hospital is now in the hands of the Seattle City Council and we implore them to act promptly to do what is right for the families of our region and the well-being of our healthcare community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George Allen", written over a horizontal line.

George Allen
Senior Vice President, Government Affairs
Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that on the 21st day of September, 2009, I sent copies of the following documents:

1. A letter in support of appeal to the Seattle City Council by the Coalition of Major Institutions and in opposition to appeals asking the City Council to deny approval to the Seattle Children's Master Plan.
2. This Certificate of Service

to the following parties by e-mail, at the e-mail address listed below for that party:

1. Judy Barbour, City of Seattle at judy.barbour@seattle.gov
2. Rick Barrett, Seattle Community Council Federation at rickbarrett@gmail.com
3. Peter Buck, The Buck Law Group (Dixie & Steve Wilson/ Laurelon Terrace) at pbuck@bucklawgroup.com
4. John V. Fox, Seattle Displacement Coalition at jvf4119@zipcon.net
5. Catherine Hennings, Children's Hospital Citizen's Advisory Committee/Laurelhurst residence at cjhennings@gmail.com
6. John Keegan, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP (Seattle Children's) at johnkeegan@dwt.com
7. Thomas Walsh, Foster Pepper PLLC (Coalition of Major Institutions) at walst@foster.com


And to the following parties by first class mail, by depositing the copies in the U.S. mail by 5:00 p.m., with proper postage affixed, at the post office address listed below.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. Seattle Displacement Coalition/Interfaith Taskforce on Homelessness
John V. Fox
Seattle Displacement Coalition
4554 12th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98105</p> <p>Bill Kirlin-Hackett
Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness
3030 Bellevue Way NE
Bellevue, WA 98004</p> | <p>2. Coalition of Major Institutions
Thomas Walsh and Judy Runstad
Foster Pepper Law Firm
1111 Third Ave., Suite 3400
Seattle, WA 98101</p> |
|--|---|

3. **Catherine Hennings, Member of
Children's Hospital Advisory Committee
and resident of Laurelhurst
Neighborhood**
Catherine J. Hennings
3638 49th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98105
4. **Steve Ross, Chair, Friends of
Children's Hospital and resident of
Laurelhurst Neighborhood**
Steve Ross
3625 47th Ave. NE
Seattle, WA 98105
5. **Hawthorne Hills Community Council**
Bonnie Miller
Chair of Land Use Committee
6057 Ann Arbor Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115-7618
6. **Seattle Community Council
Federation**
Rick Barrett
Vice President
1711 N 122nd Street
Seattle, WA 98133
7. **Seattle Children's Hospital**
John E. Keegan
Davis Wright Tremaine
1201 Third Avenue, Suite 2200
Seattle, WA 98101
8. **City of Seattle, Dept. of Planning
and Development**
Judith Barbour
Assistant City Attorney
Seattle City Attorney's Office
P.O. Box 94769
Seattle, WA 98124-4769
9. **Laurelhurst Community Club**
Peter J. Eglick and Jane S. Kiker
Eglick Kiker Whited
1000 Second Avenue, Suite 3130
Seattle, WA 98104
10. **Dixie and Steve Wilson**
Peter Buck
The Buck Law Group
2030 First Avenue, Suite 201
Seattle, WA 98121
11. **Laurelon Terrace**
Peter Buck
The Buck Law Group
2030 First Avenue, Suite 201
Seattle, WA 98121

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2009, at Seattle, Washington.


George Allen
Senior VP of Government Affairs
Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce